



RCA Amateur Radio Club Indianapolis, IN

www.w9rca.org



MARCH 2020

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE **RCA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB** WILL BE
TUESDAY, MARCH 10th, 6:30 PM AT
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, GAME ROOM, 2100 EAST 71st, INDIANAPOLIS, IN

RCA ARC NEWS

SUMMARY OF THE FEBRUARY MEETING – Thanks to all who attended the Feb. meeting. We had a good turnout. K9RU and AF9A reported the '88 repeater has been operating normally and the next task is combine all equipment into one rack as we've discussed for the last three years. There is a possibility some 800MHz public safety equipment may be added to our repeater site. The first Field Day meeting of the year for the Indy United FD Club will be Feb. 29. Indianapolis Radio Club is again planning for FD in Speedway. For the Indy Hamfest we'll have to decide how many tables or order, soon. Dave, N9KZJ, announced the station at the Indiana War Memorial is now open. And, time to order tickets for the Hamvention.

AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE TEST SESSION

Time: Saturday, March 14, 2020, 12:00 pm (Walk-ins allowed)
Location: Salvation Army EDS Training Facility, 4020 Georgetown Rd
Indianapolis, IN 46254-2407
Contact: Jim Rinehart, k9ru@arrl.net, 317 721-1458

HAMFESTS, OPERATING EVENTS, VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Mar 28	Sam Costa Run (Hamilton County)
Apr 04	Columbus Hamfest, 37th Annual Columbus Hamfest
Apr 04	Carmel Marathon (Hamilton County)
May 02	500 Festival Mini Marathon
May 15-17	Dayton Hamvention, http://www.hamvention.org/
June 27 -28	ARRL Field Day
July 10-11	Indianapolis Hamfest & ARRL State Convention, http://indyhamfest.com/

For more information: <http://www.indyhams.org/events>

MINI MARATHON NEEDS VOLUNTEERS -- The 2020 edition of the OneAmerica 500 Festival Mini Marathon is scheduled for Saturday May 2nd. 18 ham radio volunteers are still needed to provide auxiliary communications support for the marathon. Volunteers will be stationed at strategic locations along the course to relay logistical and medical needs. A reliable handheld radio and an extra battery should be sufficient to support this event. Most locations will have two radio operators.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Brent Walls, N9BA, at bwalls@arrl.net and he will get you assigned to a location.

Please share this message with any ham radio operator who may be interested.

Dayton Hamvention Officials Keeping an Eye on Coronavirus Situation

With Dayton Hamvention® 2020 a little more than 10 weeks away, Hamvention officials say they are closely following the coronavirus (COVID-19) situation. Show organizers will post updates as the May 15 – 17 event nears, but they're optimistic that coronavirus will not be an issue.

"At this time, the Hamvention Executive Committee has been in contact with the Greene County Public Health Department, and we do not anticipate any impact because of this issue," a March 3 Hamvention statement said. The Greene County Public Health Department reports that no cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed in Ohio.

"Greene County Public Health is working closely with the Ohio Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and are prepared to respond, should there be a community spread of COVID-19," the Hamvention statement noted. "The current risk to the general public is very low. Travel advisories are in effect, and can change anytime, so please see the CDC Travel Advisory webpage before traveling."

Dayton Hamvention takes place May 15 – 17 at the Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center in Xenia, Ohio.

ARRL: REDUCED DUES FOR YOUNGER APPLICANTS AND LIFE MEMBERSHIP FOR INDIVIDUALS AGE 70 OR OLDER

The Board approved an amendment giving the CEO discretion to raise the eligibility age for reduced full ARRL membership dues from 22 to 26, provided the rate not be less than one-half of the established rate. In addition, the Board approved the establishment of a reduced-rate, revenue-neutral Life Membership for individuals age 70 or older, with cumulative annual membership of 25 years or more, at an initial rate of \$750. Headquarters staff will work out the administrative details of the program, subject to approval of the Administration and Finance Committee.

The Board also agreed to allow for a "digital-only" access membership, at the discretion of the CEO, discounted no more than 10% from the established dues rate. --ARRL Letter

CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK POSTPONES SWAINS ISLAND W8S DXPEDITION

The [W8S DXpedition](#) to Swains Island in the Pacific, set to take place in mid-March, has been postponed until September as a result of travel restrictions imposed on individuals entering American Samoa, stemming from the recent coronavirus outbreak. The Department of Health allows non-residents to enter American Samoa only via Hawaii after a 14-day mandatory quarantine, and the DXpedition was unable to accommodate that requirement.

"Everything is prepared for our DXpedition, and we are eager to go, but unfortunately the coronavirus outbreak is out of our control," the DXpedition team said in announcing the delay. "Although this is a disappointment for everyone, the W8S DXpedition is not cancelled, just postponed for later this year."

The DXpedition said it would alert the DX community as soon as it has new firm dates for the trip.

ARRL COMMENTS IN OPPOSITION TO FCC PLAN TO DELETE THE 3.4 GHZ BAND

ARRL has filed comments opposing an FCC proposal to delete the 3.3 - 3.5 GHz secondary amateur allocation. The comments, filed on February 21, are in response to an FCC *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* ([NPRM](#)) in WT Docket 19-348 in which the FCC put forward a plan to remove "existing non-federal secondary radiolocation and amateur allocations" in the 3.3 - 3.55 GHz band and relocate incumbent non-federal operations. The FCC's proposal was in response to the MOBILE NOW [Making Opportunities for Broadband Investment and Limiting Excessive and Needless Obstacles to Wireless] Act, enacted in 2018 to make new spectrum available for mobile and fixed wireless broadband use. ARRL noted that amateur radio has a long history of successful coexistence with primary users of the band.

"There is no reason suggested by the Commission, or known to us, why the secondary status for amateur radio operations should not be continued for the indefinite future," ARRL said in its comments. "We understand that secondary commercial users are less flexible than amateur radio users and may desire to relocate to protect continued provision of services and service quality. Radio amateurs, by contrast, benefit from having technical knowledge and no customer demands for continuous service quality, more flexibility to make adjustments, and often have the technical abilities necessary to design and implement the means to coexist compatibly with the signals of primary users."

ARRL pointed to amateur radio's "decades-long experience observing and experimenting with radiowave propagation" in the 3.3 - 3.5 GHz band that includes mesh networks, amateur television networks, weak signal long-distance communication, Earth-Moon-Earth (moonbounce) communication, beacons used for propagation study, and amateur satellite communications. In its comments, ARRL argued that it would be "premature" to remove the current secondary amateur radio allocation.

"This spectrum should not be removed from the amateur radio secondary allocation and left unused," ARRL told the FCC. "Only at a later time may an informed assessment of sharing opportunities be made in the specific spectrum slated for re-allocation.... This depends upon the Congressionally mandated NTIA studies of sharing or relocation options that have yet to be completed and, if all or part of this spectrum is re-allocated, the nature and location of buildout by the non-federal users." The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) oversees spectrum allocated to federal government users. ARRL noted that radio amateurs have established extensive infrastructure for the current band and are engaged in construction and experimentation that includes innovative "mesh networks" and amateur television networks that can be deployed to support public service activities.

With the NTIA report addressing the 3.1 - 3.55 GHz spectrum not expected until late March, ARRL said, "we do not yet know how much spectrum below and above the amateur secondary allocation may be reallocated to non-federal users and what opportunities may exist or be developed to share [that] spectrum" with new primary users and systems.

"Even if suitable new spectrum could be found for the existing amateur uses -- which is difficult before the spectrum musical chairs activity is concluded -- the costs to radio amateurs would be significant and be borne with no countervailing public benefit," ARRL told the FCC.

"If the advent of new primary licensees forecloses some types of secondary operations, the amateur community will reevaluate the situation when some certainty exists," ARRL concluded.

AMSAT CITES NEED FOR ADEQUATE SPECTRUM IN OPPOSING DELETION OF 3.4 GHZ BAND

AMSAT has [commented](#) on the FCC *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* ([NPRM](#)) in WT Docket 19-348 that proposes to delete the 3.3 - 3.5 GHz (9 centimeter) amateur band and relocate incumbent non-federal operations. The band includes the 3.40 - 3.41 GHz Amateur Satellite Service allocation. In its remarks, AMSAT said it opposes deletion of the allocation and stressed the necessity of having adequate microwave spectrum available for future amateur satellite projects, including AMSAT's GOLF program and the Lunar Gateway. AMSAT acknowledged that the 3.4 GHz Amateur Satellite Service allocation is not currently used by any amateur satellites and that it is unsuitable for worldwide communication because it is not available in ITU Region 1. AMSAT said a number of potential future uses for the band remain, however, as worldwide usage of other available allocations increases.

"These potential uses include a future amateur satellite in geostationary orbit above the Americas," AMSAT said, explaining that the segment could support uplink or downlink frequencies for such a spacecraft without potential interference to worldwide activities involving space stations in high-Earth or lunar orbit. The most-desirable allocations for use as uplinks are between 2.4 GHz and 5.67 GHz -- 80 MHz in all, AMSAT told the FCC. "As many of the proposed uses include amateur television and high-speed data transmission with satellites in high-Earth orbit or lunar orbit, these allocations may quickly become inadequate," AMSAT said.

AMSAT told the FCC the 3.40 - 3.41 GHz allocation could be utilized as a command channel or secondary data downlink for AMSAT ground stations in ITU Region 2 without interfering with the primary communications on the other allocations or other satellites utilizing those segments.

AMSAT said several non-amateur satellites use the broader 3.3 - 3.5 GHz amateur allocation, which also sees wide use for amateur radio mesh networking, EME communications, and contesting.

"The Amateur Satellite Service continues to provide immense value to the growing field of small satellites," AMSAT concluded. "Experiments conducted by amateur satellites...continue to inform the development of the commercial small satellite industry. Additionally, student participation in amateur satellite projects provides both inspiration for young men and women to pursue careers in the commercial satellite industry and practical experience for those careers.

"A strong and robust Amateur Satellite Service will continue to benefit the public interest and inspire future developments in satellite technology," AMSAT said. "Continued progress in achieving these goals requires adequate spectrum, especially in suitable microwave bands." --
Thanks to AMSAT News Service via AMSAT Executive Vice President Paul Stoetzer, N8HM

"THE AURORAL CONNECTION" TO BE FOCUS OF 2020 HAMSCI WORKSHOP

Registration is open for the third annual [HamSCI Workshop](#) for amateur radio operators and professional scientists, Friday and Saturday, March 20 - 21, at [The University of Scranton](#). The theme of this year's workshop is "The Auroral Connection," and will include addresses by guest speakers, poster presentations, and demonstrations of relevant instrumentation and software. All radio amateurs, scientists, and anyone interested in ionospheric and space physics are welcome.

The workshop will serve as a team meeting for the [HamSCI Personal Space Weather Station project](#), a National Science Foundation (NSF)-funded [project](#) awarded to University of Scranton physics and electrical engineering professor Nathaniel Frissell, W2NAF. The project seeks to harness the power of a network of radio amateurs to better understand and measure the effects of weather in the upper levels of Earth's atmosphere. Through the grant, Frissell, a space physicist, will lead a collaborative team that will develop modular, multi-instrument, ground-based space science observation equipment and data collection and analysis software. He will also

recruit multiple universities and ham radio users to operate the network of Personal Space Weather Stations developed.

In addition to Scranton, the Personal Space Weather Station project includes participation from TAPR; the Case Western Reserve University Amateur Radio Club, W8EDU; the University of Alabama; the New Jersey Institute of Technology Center for Solar-Terrestrial Research; MIT Haystack Observatory; Dartmouth College, and the ham radio community at large.

Noted contesteer and DXer Tim Duffy, K3LR, will deliver the keynote address. The chief operating officer and general manager at DX Engineering, Duffy chairs Contest University, the Dayton Contest Dinner, and the Top Band Dinner, as well as coordinates the Contest Super Suite. He is the founder and moderator of the popular RFI Reflector. Duffy serves on the ARRL Foundation Board of Directors as well as on the board of the World Wide Radio Operators Foundation ([WWROF](#)), and as chairman and president emeritus of the Radio Club of America.

Other speakers at the workshop include Elizabeth MacDonald, the NASA researcher who founded and leads the [Aurorasaurus](#) project. She will discuss fundamentals of auroral physics, its optical signatures, and the Aurorasaurus citizen science project. James LaBelle, a professor of physics and astronomy at Dartmouth University and auroral radio physicist, and David Halliday, K2DH, a retired microwave engineer who is also well-known for his work in auroral-mode propagation will also speak.

Additional information on the conference is available on the [HamSCI Workshop 2020](#) website.--
ARRL Letter

ARRL CREATES NEW HF BAND PLANNING DISCUSSION GROUP

ARRL has created a new [HF Band Planning Discussion Group](#). HF Band Planning Committee Chair Mike Raisbeck, K1TWF, will moderate the group, which will focus on the ARRL HF Band Planning Committee's recommendations and other band-planning activities. Earlier this month, the ARRL HF Band Planning Committee [invited comments and suggestions](#) from the amateur radio community on its [report](#) to the ARRL Board.

At the Board's January meeting, the committee presented its [specific recommendations](#) in graphical form for each HF band and US license class, with the goal of increasing harmony on the HF bands, particularly between CW and digital users.

Those responding to the initial call for comments and suggestions are encouraged to cross-post their remarks to the new HF Band Planning Discussion Group.

7X7X DXPEDITION SHOWCASES COOPERATION AND YOUTH

A cooperative agreement the Algerian and Tunisian IARU member-societies signed in 2014 to reinforce relations through joint activities bore fruit with the 7X7X DXpedition to Algeria late last year. Preparations began in late October 2019, with the goal of activating Algeria on the low bands to benefit from the slump in the solar cycle.

Co-leader Ash Chaabane, 3V8SF/KF5EYY, said organizers wanted to take advantage of the DXpedition to boost interest among younger hams. Four young people were involved in the event as a result: Sarra, 7X2QV; Lotfi Kara, 7X2QC; Marwa, 3V8CB, and Ahmed Boubaker, 3V1B/KG5OUE, who are all in their 20s. Three of them have participated in Youngsters On The Air ([YOTA](#)) events sponsored by the International Amateur Radio Union ([IARU](#)). Chaabane said the youthful contingent was involved from setup to tear down, in addition to operating.

In addition to Chaabane, the team included co-leader Afif Ben Lagha, 7X2RO; Brahim Mohamed, 7X3TL; Redha el Bahi, 7X5QB, and Abdelghani Mesbah, 7X2TT/M0NPT. The Tunisian team flew from Tunis to Algiers, arriving on December 28 in Bejaia to join the Algerian team. "We immediately started putting up antennas," Chaabane said.

7X2TT kicked off the operation through the Es'hail satellite, demonstrating for the benefit of the younger operators how ham radio satellites work. The rest of the team built a nearly 40-foot tall inverted L for 160 meters; a full quarter-wave vertical for 80 meters; a two-element Fritzel Yagi for the high bands; a seven-element Yagi for VHF; a K9AY receiving loop, and a ground plane for 30 meters, which operated on 40 meters as well with the addition of a loading coil.

"We did our best to operate two stations at a time," Chaabane recounted. "We had quite few technical issues, but we overcame them." 7X7X ended up logging 5,800 contacts in 4 days, and the operating schedule was intentionally flexible.

The mode breakdown showed 38% CW, 55% SSB, and 7% FT8. "We had 1,121 QSOs on 160 and 798 on 80," Chaabane said, with 356 US and 30 JA contacts on 160 meters.

One objective of the DXpedition was to bond and form a strong team capable of larger operations in the future, Chaabane said.

The DXpedition team expressed its appreciation for the support from the Northern California DX Foundation ([NCDXF](#)), the Lone Star DX Association ([LSDXA](#)), and the Mediterraneo DX Club ([MDXC](#)), as well as some individual hams. "This support is a solid investment into the future of the ham radio hobby," Chaabane said. "We urge all DXpeditioners to involve youngsters in their future trips and do their best to make it easy and least costly for them." -- *Thanks to IARU*

THE [YOUTH ON THE AIR CAMP](#) IS BEING HELD THIS SUMMER IN CINCINNATI, OHIO

It's an opportunity for licensed Amateur Radio youth to gather and learn from one another through [workshops and hands-on activities](#).

"From now until the end of February, 2020, every dollar donated in support of the Youth on the Air Camp will be matched by Steve, KM9G, up to a total of \$4000! Your donations in support of this unique opportunity for youth to share ham radio with their peers will count DOUBLE until the end of February. For links and details, visit [YouthOnTheAir.org](#) and click "[Donate](#)" in the top right corner."

[Applications to the Youth On The Air Camp are being accepted through March 15, 2020.](#)

"Licensed amateur radio operators ages 15 through 25 who want to attend are encouraged to apply online at [YouthOnTheAir.org](#). The camp will take place June 21 through June 26, 2020 at the National Voice of America Museum of Broadcasting in West Chester Township (North Cincinnati), Ohio. The application process is FREE. The cost of the camp is \$100 plus transportation to and from the VoA museum. The \$100 fee will not be payable until after acceptance. Should a potential camper not be able to afford the \$100 fee, he or she may apply for a scholarship. Campers will be selected by the committee and notified by the end of March." [See the Youth On The Air website for additional details!](#)

ARRL BOARD OF DIRECTORS RE-ELECTS PRESIDENT RICK RODERICK, K5UR

Meeting January 17 - 18 in Windsor, Connecticut, the ARRL Board of Directors re-elected ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, to a third 2-year term. Roderick outpolled the only other nominee, Pacific

Division Director Jim Tiemstra, K6JAT, 8 - 7. New England Division Vice Director Mike Raisbeck, K1TWF, was elected First Vice President, succeeding Greg Widin, K0GW, who did not seek another term. Raisbeck was the sole nominee. A successor will be appointed to fill the Vice Director seat that Raisbeck has vacated. Bob Vallio, W6RGG, was re-elected as Second Vice President as the only nominee.

On a 9 - 6 vote, the Board voted not to re-elect Howard Michel, WB2ITX, as Chief Executive Officer. Michel was in the post for 15 months. Former ARRL Chief Financial Officer and Chief Executive Officer Barry Shelley, N1VXY, has come out of retirement to serve as interim ARRL CEO. He also was elected as Secretary. Shelley was ARRL's CFO for 28 years and served as CEO during 2018 before his retirement, following the departure of former CEO Tom Gallagher, NY2RF. The ARRL Board has appointed a committee to spearhead the search for a new CEO. That panel will screen suitable CEO candidates, presenting three to the Board for consideration.

In other action, former ARRL President and IARU Secretary Rod Stafford, W6ROD, was elected International Affairs Vice President, succeeding Jay Bellows, K0QB, who did not seek another term. Also re-elected by the Board were Treasurer Rick Niswander, K7GM, and Chief Financial Officer Diane Middleton, W2DLM.

Elected as members of the Executive Committee were Atlantic Division Director Tom Abernethy, W3TOM; Central Division Director Kermit Carlson, W9XA; Roanoke Division Director Bud Hippisley, W2RU; New England Division Director Fred Hopengarten, K1VR, and Great Lakes Division Director Dale Williams, WA8EFK. The Executive Committee addresses and makes decisions regarding ARRL business that may arise between scheduled Board meetings.

Hudson Division Director Ria Jairam, N2RJ, was elected as a member of the ARRL Foundation Board for a 3-year term. Tim Duffy, K3LR, and Jim Fenstermaker, K9JF, were elected to the Foundation Board for 3-year terms as non-ARRL Board members. --ARRL Letter

SHORTS

Not ham radio, but... Here is a Youtube video on the construction of wind turbines in Europe: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8NXLKRW1IEU>

Want to find all the specs, photos, measurement data, etc. on your radio, phone, or whatever? Here is a simple search and URL shortener for FCC ID queries. <http://fcc.io/> You will need to know the FCC ID number for your radio. This can be found maybe on the radio inside the battery compartment. Or do a Google search, or maybe in the instruction book, sometimes a QR code in the instruction book will have it. Try it. Here is the FCC ID for my Wouxun KG-UV6D: **WVTWOUXUN07**

Relief From Private Land-Use Restrictions – The Ad Hoc Legislative Advocacy Committee provided the ARRL Board with drafts outlining three legislative approaches to address relief for radio amateurs facing private land-use restrictions impacting outdoor antennas. The Board signed off on the draft legislative approaches "as presented and possibly modified" and directed the committee "to proceed to obtain congressional sponsorship, employing any of these three approaches and using its best judgment on any alterations or modifications that our advisors or sponsors may require or suggest."

Successful 47 GHz Amateur Radio Moonbounce Test Reported – Mitsuo Kasai, JA1WQF, successfully decoded a 47 GHz signal bounced off the moon on February 10 by Al Ward,

W5LUA. More tests are planned. Ward posted news of the achievement on the Moon-Net email reflector. "These were one-way tests, with only me transmitting," he said in his [post](#). "I started out by sending single tones to Mitsuo, which he copied well, and then sent several sequences of calls and grid. Mitsuo was able to decode calls and my grid at 1146 UTC and 1234 UTC. Signal levels were -23 dB and -25 dB." Ward noted that the first EME (Earth-moon-Earth) contact on 47 GHz took place in early 2005. "More 47 GHz tests are being run in the next few days with Manfred Ploetz, DL7YC," he said. "We hope for similar success."

HF Band Planning – Outgoing chair of the HF Band Planning Committee Greg Widin, K0GW, presented the panel's report and entertained questions. Board members noted that staff turnover and funding limitations at the FCC might impact ARRL's efforts to tweak the bands. The Board agreed that ARRL would post the report and [solicit comments](#) from members on it.

ARRL Board Approved a grant of \$500 to the Youth on the Air (YOTA) in the Americas program – Approved, a grant of \$500 to the Youth on the Air (YOTA) in the Americas program, which is sponsoring a camp in June for young radio amateurs. Neil Rapp, WB9VPG, a former ARRL Youth Coordinator, is heading the initiative, which is funded through the non-profit Electronic Applications Radio Service Inc.

The ARRL Board approved raising the maximum number of contacts a Field Day GOTA station can make to 1,000.

The ARRL Board amended the ARRL RTTY Roundup rules to add Multi-Two and Multi-Multi categories and to permit multioperator stations to operate for the entire contest period, and it divided entry categories into RTTY only, Digital only (i.e., no RTTY), and Mixed (both RTTY and digital).

The International Amateur Radio Union ([IARU](#)) has completed the makeover of its main website and the three regional websites -- all with the same basic design. The three regional sites can be accessed directly from the IARU home page. All of the updated pages are organized to broadly mirror the structure of the International Telecommunication Union ([ITU](#)) and its related regional telecommunication organizations. The Region 2 web page is available in English or Spanish. Each page offers a look at recent IARU news and events. -- *Thanks to IARU Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ*

The FCC has invited comments on a *Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM)* in [WT Docket 19-138](#), which said the FCC would take "a fresh and comprehensive look" at the rules for the 5.9 GHz band The FCC proposes to make 5.850 - 5.895 GHz available for unlicensed operations and to authorize transportation-related communication technologies to use 5.895 - 5.925 GHz. The FCC is not proposing to delete or otherwise amend the 5-centimeter secondary amateur radio allocation at 5.650 - 5.925 GHz, part of which includes the 75 megahertz under consideration. Comments are due by March 6, and reply comments are due by April 6. ARRL will be filing comments supporting no change to 5.850 - 5.925 GHz for amateurs, as included in the FCC proposal.

Initial reports indicate considerable interest among amateurs in tracking and capturing data from the newly deployed HuskySat-1. The satellite, designed at the University of Washington, was launched to the International Space Station last November and subsequently deployed into a higher orbit from the ISS on January 31, and began telemetry transmissions on 435.800 MHz. HuskySat-1's 1,200 bps BPSK beacon is active and decodable with the latest release of AMSAT's [FoxTelem](#) software. The HuskySat-1 CubeSat will demonstrate onboard plasma propulsion and high-gain telemetry for low-Earth orbit that would be a precursor for an attempt at a larger CubeSat designed for orbital insertion at the moon. HuskySat-1 is expected to carry out its primary mission before being turned over to AMSAT for activation of a 30 kHz wide V/U linear transponder for SSB and CW. -- *Thanks to AMSAT News Service*

N3FJP, has just released updates for all of his contest software, with some great new features for 2020! [Complete details are available on his website.](#)

Two [Winlink](#) development team members were recently awarded the Military Department of Tennessee Adjutant General's Distinguished Patriot Medal. Steve Waterman, K4CJX, was awarded "for his distinguished patriotic service as the Winlink Network Administrator," citing his "vision, hard work, and dedication to emergency communication [that] contributed significantly to the disaster readiness and communications interoperability of the emergency responders across the United States and the world." Phil Sherrod, W4PHS, was awarded the medal "for his distinguished patriotic service as the lead developer for Winlink," with "technical skill, hard work, and dedication to emergency communication [that] contributed significantly to the disaster readiness and communications interoperability of the emergency responders across the United States and the world."

Cloudlog You're probably keeping records of your contacts in a general computer logger running on a PC. If you're not near that logging PC, you can't easily access your logging data. [Cloudlog](#), a web-based logging application, aims to make it easy to access your logs from a "desktop, tablet or mobile phone" that's convenient for you, via the web. It's [available as open-source](#) on Github to run it yourself, you'll just need to be able to host your own MySQL and PHP webserver. Or, you can purchase a [subscription to Cloudlog's servers](#).

The [QRP Labs QCX Transceiver](#) now has a mono-band companion [50 watt amplifier kit](#). This amp is ONLY for the QCX CW Transceiver, since it's class C design. When used with the QCX, it's capable of QSK operation. There's an attractive case available for it, as well!

Practicing for the next CW contest is getting easier with an improved integration between *N1MM Logger+* and *MorseRunner*. The improvement's author, Steve, N2IC, noted: "This new version is much simpler than previous versions. After you check the "MorseRunner Mode" box in the Configurer-->Other tab, it should all magically work. No AHK [Auto Hot Key - Ed.] scripts are needed. No need to separately download and start *MorseRunner* prior to starting *N1MM Logger+*." This is built in to *N1MM Logger+* starting with version 1.0.8131. Steve requests that all [feedback be sent to him](#).

Mike, K7MDL, wrote an extensive description and review of NanoVNA-H and NanoVNA-H4 vector network analyzers for the Pacific Northwest VHF Society email list. "In case you have not seen it yet, NanoVNA-H and NanoVNA-H4 (a 4" screen version) are now available with extended coverage to 1.5GHz using the 5th harmonic of the PLL max frequency with reduced but still usable range. The new 3.4 version board has changes that include better RF shielding, increased RF output level, frequency stability <0.5ppm, new CPU, and larger 1950mAh battery with improved charging. Uses a USB Type C connector for charging and data communication to a smartphone or computer." His conclusion is "great value covering the all the HF through 1296 bands" but the [entire review is thoroughly worth reading](#).

THANKS FOR READING !

THE RCA ARC MONTHLY NEWSLETTER IS COMPILED AND EDITED BY JIM RINEHART, K9RU AND JIM KEETH, AF9A. ALL MATERIAL CONTAINED HEREIN IS OBTAINED FROM THE SOURCES CREDITED AND EDITED FOR THIS NEWSLETTER. EMAIL TO mail to: WebMaster@w9rca.org. Check our web site at <http://www.w9rca.org>